

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15098 142206Z

ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-12

AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10

OIC-02 /172 W

-----023739 151340Z /46

R 141816Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3391

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

/USUN 6279

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15098

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: UR, PLOS

SUBJECT: SOVIET LOS NEGOTIATOR ON PROSPECT FOR LOS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 238616, (B) STATE 238213

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF PASSED SUGGESTED INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE AS INSTRUCTED REFTTEL B TO MFA TREATY AND LEGAL DIVISION COUNSELOR YAKOVLEV ON OCTOBER 6. YAKOVLEV BELIEVES THAT THE CHANGES IN THE EVERSEN TEXT CAN BE REVERSED, THAT SOVIET-AMERICAN COOPERATION IS IMPORTANT AND BENEFICIAL IN LOS, AND THAT THE PROGRESS OF THE PAST FEW YEARS SHOULD NOT BE TOSSED AWAY THROUGH DRAMATIC OR "UNILATERAL" MOVES SUCH AS US ABANDONING THE NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 15098 142206Z

2. IN RESPONSE TO REF A REQUEST, WE ARE REPORTING YAKOVLEV'S VIEWS (BASED ON AUGUST 31 AND OCT. 6 CONVERSATIONS) ON LOS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH INCLUDE HIS SUGGESTIONS ON STRATEGIES THE US AND USSR MIGHT FOLLOW.

3. YAKOVLEV EMPHASIZED THE "HIGH ESTEEM" WHICH THE SOVIETS HAVE FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON. HE SAID THE SOVIET DELEGATION GREATLY APPRECIATES THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN US AND SOVIET LOS NEGOTIATORS. HE CLAIMED THAT THIS COOPERATION WAS ESPECIALLY STRONG AT THE LAST SESSION, AND THAT THE SOVIET SIDE LOOKS FORWARD TO SIMILAR COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE SINCE US AND USSR VIEWS COINCIDE ON SO MANY ISSUES.

4. TACTICS: YAKOVLEV STRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE THAT THE US AND THE USSR CAN STILL ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES BY PERSISTING IN THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS. THE SUPPORT BOTH SIDES CAN MUSTER AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS IS FORMIDABLE. THE TWO SIDES SUCCESSFULLY WORKED TO PRODUCE THE EVENSEN TEXT, ONLY TO HAVE CHAIRMAN ENGO DRASTICALLY REVISE IT AS THE LAST MINUTE. YAKOVLEV THOUGHT THAT THE US AND USSR CONTINUE TO HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO WORK THROUGH ENGO, (HE IS THE "AFRICAN" NOMINEE) BUT OPINED THAT ENGO CAN BE BROUGHT AROUND. ENGO, LIKE PINTO BEFORE HIM, HAD BEEN IRRITATED WHEN HIS DRAFT WAS REJECTED AS THE WORKING DRAFT. THE RADICALS IN THE GROUP OF 77 (E.G., PINTO, JAGOTA, THE ALGERIANS AND PERUVIANS) SUCCESSFULLY PLAYED ON HIS REACTION TO THE REJECTION OF HIS DRAFT WHILE URGING HIM TO "SHOW SOLIDARITY TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 15098 142206Z

GROUP OF 77". YAKOVLEV SAID THAT "IN MANY RESPECTS" ENGO, THOUGH "COMPLICATED" IS "MANAGEABLE". ENGO'S ORIGINAL DRAFT WAS NOT TOO FAR FROM WHAT THE US AND USSR WOULD HAVE WISHED. AMERASINGHE MAY ALSO COOPERATE.

5. YAKOVLEV CONTINUED THAT THE US AND USSR SHOULD "NOT FIGHT" THE NEGOTIATIONS BY "DRAMATIC MOVES" THAT CAN BE EXPLOITED BY THE RADICALS IN THE GROUP OF 77 TO PUSH ENGO AWAY FROM THE EVENSEN TEXT. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID THE US "REVIEW" IMPLIED A CERTAIN "UNILATERALISM" AND EVEN THOUGH THIS IS NOT WHAT THE US MAY INTEND, US STATEMENTS WILL BE READ IN THIS LIGHT AND EXPLOITED BY THE RADICALS. THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY FOR MANY YEARS, THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS TO A POINT AND "THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD PROCEED FROM THAT POINT." HOWEVER, IF ALL OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES BEGIN "REVIEWING" THE RESULTS AND EVEN THE CONFERENCE ITSELF, THEN NUMEROUS NEW "CONDITIONS" WILL ARISE. YAKOVLEV ARGUED THAT THE RADICALS WILL CLAIM US "UNILATERALISM" VIOLATES THE

MULTI-LATERAL NATURE OF THE CONFERENCE FOR THE SAKE OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL OBJECTIVES. HE STRONGLY URGED AGAINST "THROWING THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATHWATER" AFTER SO MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. HE ASKED THAT THE US LOOK AT A TIMEFRAME OF FIFTY YEARS, WHEN THE MYRIAD PROBLEMS COVERED IN THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS AND THE PROCESS OF MULTI-LATERAL SOLUTIONS TO MULTILATERAL PROBLEMS WILL CARRY EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANCE. HE STATED HIS PRIVATE VIEW THAT IF THE US AND USSR CAN COPE SUCCESSFULLY WITH THE RADICALS AND INFLUENCE ENGO IN THE UPCOMING SEVENTH SESSION, AN OVERALL AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO SESSIONS.

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PAGE 04 MOSCOW 15098 142206Z

6. ARTICLE 151: YAKOVLEV STATED THAT THE EVENSEN FORMULATION IS THE "BOTTOM LINE" FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND HE STRESSED THAT MOSCOW'S DELEGATION WILL NOT RETREAT FROM ITS PROVISIONS.

7. IN CLOSING, YAKOVLEV ONCE AGAIN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE US, FOLLOWING ITS REVIEW, WILL NOT MAKE A DRAMATIC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WILL PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF THE RADICALS. WASHINGTON WILL CONTINUE TO FIND THE SOVIET UNION READY TO COOPERATE, HE SAID. HE CONCLUDED BY ASKING THAT THE UNITED STATES NOT ABANDON THE NEGOTIATIONS AND "LEAVE US IN THE BOAT BY OURSELVES."
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Message Attributes

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